JAS 39 GRIPEN



951001 English

Saab Military Aircraft



First of the New-Generation Fighters

The JAS 39 Gripen is the world´s first light-weight multi-role combat aircraft, a triumph in sophisticated aircraft engineering and advanced technology. The Gripen is the result of a joint development programme by the Swedish aircraft industry to meet the uncompromising demands of future scenarios in which flexibility, availability, efficiency and survivability will be at a premium.

Flexibility

The designation JAS is a Swedish abbreviation for Fighter, Attack and Reconnaissance. Each JAS 39 aircraft will perform all three types of mission, optimized systems allowing advanced performance in each role without detriment to the others. Gripen squadrons will offer the Swedish Air Force an unprecedented and unique level of adaptability in countering different threats.

Availability

Using dispersed road-bases or small airfields, the JAS 39 Gripen is designed as an integral part of a new basing concept. Because of its high reliability and designed-in ease of maintenance, conscript technicians in the field can quickly prepare the aircraft for its next mission, no matter which role.

Efficiency

Flight characteristics and performance are designed around fighter missions with high demands on speed, acceleration and manoeuvrability. The combination of delta wing and close-coupled all-moving canard gives the Gripen excellent take-off and landing characteristics as well as superlative flight performance.



The flight characteristics of the Gripen are achieved by combining the canard-delta configuration and a fly-by-wire control system with built-in redundancy. This gives outstanding manoeuvrability and safety, as well as allowing a wide variety of payloads to be carried for the different missions.

The Gripen weighs only half as much as its predecessor, the Saab 37 Viggen, but can carry the same weapons load. This has been accomplished through advances in materials, avionics and engine technology.

The powerful pulse-Doppler radar, with dedicated functions for each type of mission, contributes significantly to the Gripen´s combat efficiency.

Survivability

Combat scenarios of the future will be characterized by extensive electronic warfare and concentrated attacks on airfields and communications centres.

Low signatures make the JAS 39 Gripen as difficult to detect on the ground as in the air. With comprehensive countermeasures equipment, the aircraft is designed to survive with full operational capability in the combat environment of tomorrow.

Economy

The JAS 39 Gripen breaks the trend towards increasingly heavy and expensive aircraft. High reliability, simple maintenance and low fuel consumption contribute to exceptionally low operating and life-cycle costs.

Training

Well trained pilots are a prerequisite for an effective combat aircraft system operating in three principal roles. The two-seat JAS 39B version of the Gripen, with identical controls in both cockpits, not only facilitates basic flight instruction but enhances effective tactical system training. The JAS 39B has essentially the same characteristics and operational capability as the single-seat Gripen.

The future

Delivery of the first production series of JAS 39 Gripen aircraft to the Swedish Air Force begins in 1993. So far, 140 Gripens have been contracted for, including a number of two-seat JAS 39Bs, with deliveries running up to the year 2001. The total requirement according to the Swedish Parliament´s Defence Decision 1992 is for 16 squadrons, or more than 300 aircraft.

Sweden´s tradition of continuous fighter development, carried out in close collaboration with customers, has contributed to the ongoing production of state-of-the-art combat aircraft with a long life. The standardized, computer-based system design of the multirole JAS 39 Gripen endows the aircraft with built-in development potential to maintain its effectiveness and tactical advantage well into the 21st Century.

The companies behind the JAS 39 Gripen

Saab Military Aircraft, Ericsson Microwave Systems, Volvo Aero Corporation and FFV Aerotech.





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